Special Assistance to Gujarat

2717. SHRIMATI ANANDIBEN JETHABHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any special Central assistance in terms of loan was sanctioned by Government during 1992-93 and 1993-94 to Gujarat; and

(b) if so, the details of the funds sanctioned and released to the State so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) No special Central assistance in terms of loan was sanctioned during 1992-93 and 1993-94 to Gujarat.

(b) Question does not arise.

सीमावर्ती राज्यों में हवाला संव्यवहार

2718. **श्री महेश्वर सिंह:** क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि केन्द्रीय प्रवर्तन निदेशालय द्वारा देश में कई उद्योगपतियों और व्यावसायिक घरानों के हवाला संव्यवहारों की जांच की जा रही है;

(ख) यदि हां, ऐसे औद्योगिक और व्यावसाहिक घरानों के नाम क्या हैं;

(ग) उनमें से कौन-कौन से व्यावसायिक घराने देश के सीमावर्ती राज्यों जम्मू और कश्मीर, पंजाब, राजस्थान और गुजरात में कार्यरत हैं;

(घ) क्या सरकार देश में सुरक्षा की समस्या की गंभीरता को देखते हुए जांच को शीघ्र पूरा करेगी;

(ङ) यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण है और यदि हां, तो कब तक; और

(च) प्रत्येक सीमावर्ती राज्य में व्यावसायिक घरानों की जांच आरम्भ हुए कितना-कितना समय व्यतीत हो चुका है और अब तक की गई जांच के बाद क्या-क्या तथ्य सामने आए हैं?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एम० वी० चन्द्रशेखर मूर्ति): (क) से (च) सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और सभा पटल पर रख दी जाएगी।

Representation by Jewellery Exporters

2719. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Jewellery exporters have made representation to Government for granting of permission to export Jewellery items and gems through personal package to increase the volume of exports;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Central Board of Excise and Customs has not so far given any positive reply to the Jewellery exporters; and

(c) if so, by when the decision is to be taken to ease the export policy on jewellery and gems?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) Yes, Sir. Representations have been received from some of the Jewellery exporters having units in Export Processing Zones for granting them permission to export jewellery through personal baggage by passengers.

(b) and (c) At present export of Gems and Jewellery from units located in the Export Processing Zones (EPZs) is permitted through air as commercial cargo. It has recently been decided to allow the exports by such Jewellery units through the medium of post parcels also. The request for permitting such exports through personal baggage is under consideration.

Board of Nationalised Banks

2720. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have reconstituted the Boards of the Nationalised Banks, State Bank of India and its subsidiaries;

(b) if so, names of the Directors of each of the Nationalised Banks, SBI and its subsidiaries; and

(c) if not, by when Government is going to constitute the Boards for these banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) to (c) The boards of the public sector banks are continuing entities and vacancies that arise are filled up from time to time. While the appointment of non official directors on the boards of nationalised banks and the Central Board of State Bank of India is made by Central Government, that of the non official directors on the boards of the subsidiary banks is made by the State Bank of India. Although the tenures of existing non official directors on the Boards of nationalised banks have expired, they are continuing as per the provisions of the statutes. Government have initiated necessary steps for reconstituting the Central Board of State Bank of India and the Boards of the nationalised banks.

Counter Guarantee of MNCs

2721. SHRIMATI MIRA DAS:
SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether counter guarantee of the state demanded by MNCs would lead to mismanagement of plants and investments as high percentage of profits are guaranteed;

(b) if not, what are the reasons that such a risk is being actively considered and approved by the Finance Department;

(c) whether other developing countries are providing sovereign guarantees to MNCs;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether China has rejected the idea of sovereign guarantee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) and (b) The Counter-Guarantees under consideration only guarantee the payment obligations of the State Electricity Boards in the event of a payment default by the respective State Electricity Board and the State Government. By itself, a counter guarantee does not guarantee any level of profits. Such counter guarantees are being contemplated as the foreign lenders are not willing to land on the strength of State Government guarantees as the latter do not have international credit ratings.

(c) and (d) Government has been informed that other developing countries like philipines, Malaysia have provided sovereign guarantees, which are much wider than the GOI counter guarantee under consideration.

(e) No information is presently available in this regard.

Inflation Rate in India

2722. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) how does the inflation rate of India compare with that of USA, UK, Germany, Japan and France; and

(b) what are the reasons for high inflation rate in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) The inflation rate based on Consumer Price Index for the month of May, 1994 was as follows:

	Inflation (%)
USA	2.3
UK	2.6
Germany	2.9
Japan	0.8
France	1.8
India	10.6

(b) Inflation rate in developing countries tends to be higher compared to industrially advanced countries because of